

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-25

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NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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R 021545Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 720

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: SDLP MANIFESTO LOOKS BEYOND GENERAL ELECTION

1. SUMMARY: SDLP MANIFESTO FOR OCTOBER 10 BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION IS ALSO PLATFORM FOR EVENTUAL CONSTITUTION CONVENTION CAMPAIGN. SDLP DECLARES THAT IN EVENT MAJORITY NORTHERN IRISH PEOPLE GIVE MANDATE TO POLICY DENIAL ACCESS TO DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND DENIAL CIVIL RIGHTS OF MINORITY, BRITAIN SHOULD WITHDRAW GUARANTEES UNIONIST MAJORITY COULD REMAIN IN UNITED KINGDOM. TACTICALLY MENIFESTO SEEKS WEAKEN ELECTROAL SUPPORT FOR UNIONIST LEADERS WHOSE POLICIES SDLP BELIEVES COULD BRING ABOUT CRISIS SITUATION. MANIFESTO IN COMMON WITH PRONOUNCEMENTS OTHER PARTIES AND INDIVIDUALS DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO LOCAL ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP) MANIFESTO RELEASED OCT. 1. SUMMARY MANIFESTO FOLLOWS: MANIFESTO CONDEMNS INTERNMENT AND POINTS TO URGENCY ESTABLISHING STABLE GOVERNMENT ESPECIALLY IN VIEW WORSENING ECONOMIC SITUATION. IT REITERATES TWO PRINCIPLES THAT ALL SECTIONS OF NORTHERN PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE RIGHTFUL ACCESS TO DECISION MAKING PROCESS AT ALL LEVELS AND THAT THE NATIONAL IDENTITIES MUST BE RECOGNIZED IN NORTHERN IRELAND'S RELATIONS WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND REPUBLIC IRELAND.

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LEADERSHIP UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COALITION (UUUC) HAS REJECTED

PRINCIPLES AND SEEKS MANDATE FOR REJECTION. IN EVENT (MAJORITY) LOYALIST POPULATION REJECTS THESE TERMS THEN NEW SITUATION WILL EMERGE INVOLVING NEED RADICAL RE-APPRAISAL SITUATION BY BOTH SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTS. TWO-WAY GUARANTEES HAVE PREVAILED WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT GUARANTEEING UNIONIST POPULATION OF RIGHT TO REMAIN IN U.K. IMPLICIT WAS REVERSE GUARANTEE THAT UNIONIST POPULATION WOULD ACCEPT AND ABIDE BY POLICIES SUCCESSIVE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS AND PARLIAMENTS. SHOULD MAJORITY OF UNIONISTS THROUGH ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES INTERPRET BRITISH GUARANTEE AS LICENSE TO DOMINATE MINORITY AND DEPRIVE MINORITY BASIC CIVIL RIGHTS THEN UNIONISTS FOREGO GUARANTEES. THESE GUARANTEES IN 1929 GOVERNMENT IRELAND ACT, 1949 IRELAND ACT AND 1973 NORTHERN IRELAND CONSTITUTIONAL ACT WOULD HAVE TO BE WITHDRAWN. IF NEW SITUATION DEVELOPS SDLP WILL CALL ON BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO DECLARE NEW POLICY BASIS AND TO DECLARE IT WILL REMAIN NORTHERN IRELAND ONLY UNTIL AGREED GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS ESTABLISHED WHICH WILL ALLOW PEOPLE OF IRELAND NORTH AND SOUTH TO LIVE TOGETHER IN HARMONY, PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE. BRITISH GOVERNMENT AT THAT TIME SHOULD MAKE CLEAR IT WILL USE ALL INFLUENCE AND POWER TO BRING ABOUT SITUATION IN WHICH IRISH PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT

EDITION CAN BUILD GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE FOR LASTING PEACE AND STABILITY AND FOR NEW AND HARMONIOUS RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN ITSELF. (GIVEN NEW SITUATION) BRITISH GOVERNMENT SHOULD SEEK FULL COOPERATION OF GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT OF REPUBLIC IRELAND AND PEOPLE NORTHERN IRELAND. NEW POLICY WOULD IMPLICITLY RULE OUT INDEFINITE DIRECT RULE, INDEPENDENT NORTHERN IRELAND, INTEGRATION WITH GREAT BRITAIN OR NEW PARTITION NORTHERN IRELAND. SDLP ABILITY INSIST THAT ANY NEW INSTITUTIONS RESPECT AND PROTECT DIFFERENT TRADITIONS DEPENDENT ON STRENGTH OF MANDATE GIVE SDLP THIS ELECTION. END SUMMARY MANIFESTO.

3. CAREFULLY WORDED MANIFESTO DELIBERATELY MINIMIZES ROLE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND. BY GIVING BRITISH ROLE PREDOMINANCE AND ACKNOWLEDGING WILL OF POPULACE IT HOPES APPEAR TO MODERATE LOYALIST VOTERS. TACTIC INTENDED WEAKEN MODERATE SUPPORT FOR LOYALIST LEADERS WHOSE INTRANSIGENCE SDLP BELIEVES COULD LEAD TO SOME DOOMSDAY SITUATION.

4. MANIFESTO IN COMMON WITH PUBLICATIONS AND PRONOUNCEMENTS
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OTHER POLITICAL GROUPS IS AIMED NOT TO OCTOBER 10 GENERAL ELECTION SO MUCH AS TO EVENTUAL CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ELECTION. INDEED EXCEPT FOR ENOCH POWELL USING ISSUES EEC AND INFLATION AND SOME MINIMAL ATTENTION TO FARM PRICES, NORTHERN IRELAND CANDIDATES SEEM HARDLY BE RUNNING IN "BRITISH" GENERAL ELECTION.

5. TEXTS THIS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.
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